



**MINUTES OF THE  
ARKANSAS PAROLE BOARD  
JANUARY 28, 2021  
9:00 A.M.  
RICHARD LEE RICHARDSON AUDITORIUM**

**Board Members Present**

Lona McCastlain, Vice Chairman, APB  
Wendy Ryals, Secretary, APB  
Abraham Carpenter, Commissioner, APB  
Andy Shock, Commissioner, APB  
Jerry Riley, Commissioner, APB  
Boyce Hamlet, Commissioner, APB

**Others Present**

Evelyn Gomez, Hearing Judge, APB  
Hollie Wellborn, Executive Assistant to the Chairman, APB  
Christie Goldman, Investigator, APB  
Scott Howard, Investigator, APB  
William Bowman, Systems Coordination Analyst, APB  
Tamara Salaam, Administrative Support Supervisor, APB  
Shirley Ellingburg, Area Manager, Institutional Release Services, DCC  
Joe West, Assistant Attorney General, Attorney General's Office  
Lindsay Wallace, Chief of Staff, DOC  
Elizabeth Taylor, Assistant Director Parole/Probation, DCC  
Jim Cheek, Program Admin. Parole/Probation Services, DCC

**Excused**

John Felts, Chairman, APB  
Brooke D. Cummings, Executive Administrator, APB  
Carol Bohannon, Hearing Judge, APB

## **Call to Order**

Vice Chair McCastlain called the Board meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. A quorum was declared. Vice Chair McCastlain noted that Chairman Felts was out on leave.

## **Approval of Minutes – January 14, 2021**

Commissioner Shock moved for approval of the minutes. Commissioner Carpenter seconded the motion. The minutes were approved as presented.

A copy of the minutes was included in each board member's packet for review.

## **Review of Population Reports**

Vice Chair McCastlain reviewed the population reports starting with the ADC report. She said we are up, barely, in Cummins, Delta, and East and down in every other unit. Texarkana Work Release has 76%, McPherson has 80%, and Wrightsville has 86.1%. The total population is 16,044.

Vice Chair McCastlain then reviewed the population report for DCC. She said there are 1,279 in the community facilities.

Vice Chair McCastlain ended the review of the population reports by reviewing the Statewide Field Operations report for the month of December. Vice Chair McCastlain noted that there were 32,447 on Regular Probation. Specialty Court was at 1,637, Parole was 26,409, Boot Camp was 16, and the Act 539s count was 23. This gives a combined total of 60,532 persons under supervision.

## **Attorney General's Report**

Assistant Attorney General Joe West reported to the Board that at the end of December there was a total of 13 APA Appeals. That number dropped to 11. Judge Fox granted Mr. West's Motion to Dismiss in two cases. The cases are Houston v. APB and Wood v. APB. For the Wood case, the petitioner has filed a notice of appeal. Mr. West said the number in Circuit Court is down to 11, and all of the those are fully briefed.

There were no questions regarding the Attorney General's report.

### **Fiscal Report Update**

Ms. Christie Goldman, Investigator, APB, updated the Board on the Fiscal Report. Ms. Goldman reported that effective July 1, 2020, the Agency received funding of \$351,800 for Maintenance & Operations and Conference & Travel for fiscal year 2021. As of December 31, 2020, we've expensed \$67,977.54 (19.32%). At this time last year, the Board had exhausted 41% of the operating expense budget.

A copy of the fiscal report was included in each board member's packet for review.

### **Hearing Judge's Report**

Ms. Goldman updated the Board on revocation hearings conducted throughout the month of December 2020. There were a total of 486 hearing outcomes for the month of December.

A copy of the hearing judge report was included in each board member's packet for review.

### **Agency Updates**

There was nothing to report regarding agency updates.

### **Old Business**

There was nothing to report regarding old business.

### **New Business**

There was nothing to report regarding new business.

### **Files for Review**

A copy of the files for review was included in each board member's packet for review.

### **Review of the Hearing Schedule**

A copy of the hearing schedule was included in each board member's packet for review.

**Adoption of Recommendations**

Secretary Ryals moved to adopt the recommendations of the Board for the units as listed on the attached ratification list. Commissioner Carpenter seconded the motion. The motion passed, and the recommendations became the official vote of the Parole Board.

**Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 9:07 a.m.

The next Board meeting will be held on Thursday, January 28, 2021 at 9:00 a.m.

***Signature on file***

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**John Felts**  
**Chairman**

***Signature on file***

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**Wendy Ryals**  
**Secretary**

# ARKANSAS PAROLE BOARD

## FULL BOARD RATIFICATION OF VOTES

JANUARY 2021

UNITS:

RATIFIED (X)

R.L. Williams



Pine Bluff



Ester



Grimes



East Arkansas



Mississippi Co. W/R/NEACC



Varner



Ouachita



**Other:** Pardons, Commutations, Transfer Screenings, ACT 290s, 700s, Reconsiderations, Revocation Appeals, Rescinds, Special Conditions, EPAs, Etc.



**Motion By:** Secretary Ryals    **Seconded by:** Commissioner Carpenter

**Ratification Date:** January 28, 2021